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Sen. Stamas' legislation to help grieving families passed by Senate

LANSING – Legislation providing a tax credit to families suffering from the loss of a child resulting from stillbirth unanimously passed the Michigan Senate Thursday, said state Sen. Tony Stamas, R-Midland.

“This is one small thing we can do for families that are already grieving,” said Stamas, chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Department of Community Health. “This is the right thing to do.”

Introduced by Stamas, Senate Bill 1176 provides a \$150 credit for the tax year of the family's loss.

According to the Michigan Department of Community Health, there are approximately 750 stillbirths in Michigan annually.

“In addition to dealing with a tragedy of this nature, the parents of a stillborn child still have the prenatal and preparation expenses all expectant parents have as well as the added costs of planning a funeral,” Stamas said. “This bill will help them alleviate some of the financial burdens they face in such a difficult time.”

SB 1176 now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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